| | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
|---|---|---|
| ***Notice of Allowability*** | 09/895,086 | BENFIELD ET AL. |
| | **Examiner** | **Art Unit** | |
| | Gary J Portka | 2188 | |

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--*

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *response filed September 3, 2004*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1, 3-19, 21-37, and 39-40, renumbered as 1-37 respectively*.

3. ☒ The drawings filed on *29 June 2001* are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None  of the:

        1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ .

        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached

        1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**

7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date *111004* .

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ .

## EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1.      An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes
and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided
by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be
submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview
with Joseph R. Burwell on November 9, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:


*In the claims:*

1.  A method for managing objects in a data processing system, the method
comprising:

creating a skeleton cache; ~~and~~

storing a first object in the skeleton cache, wherein a skeleton cache stores
skeleton objects and/or full objects, wherein a full object is an object in which each
attribute within the full object has a data value, wherein a skeleton object is an object in
which at least one attribute within the skeleton object is dataless, and wherein a
skeleton object has a corresponding full object that is stored without the skeleton cache
but within the data processing system <u>; and</u>

<u>retrieving a skeleton definition associated with the first object, wherein a skeleton</u>
<u>definition is associated with a first object's type, wherein a skeleton definition indicates</u>

whether an attribute within the first object is a skeleton attribute, and wherein a skeleton

attribute is a dataless attribute.


Cancel claim 2.


In claim 3 at line 1, delete "2" and replace with "1".


In claim 4 at line 1, delete "2" and replace with "1".


19.  An apparatus for managing objects in a data processing system, the

apparatus comprising:

means for creating a skeleton cache; and

means for storing a first object in the skeleton cache, wherein a skeleton cache

stores skeleton objects and/or full objects, wherein a full object is an object in which

each attribute within the full object has a data value, wherein a skeleton object is an

object in which at least one attribute within the skeleton object is dataless, and wherein

a skeleton object has a corresponding full object that is stored without the skeleton

cache but within the data processing system ; and

means for retrieving a skeleton definition associated with the first object, wherein

a skeleton definition is associated with a first object's type, wherein a skeleton definition

indicates whether an attribute within the first object is a skeleton attribute, and wherein a

skeleton attribute is a dataless attribute.

Cancel claim 20.

In claim 21 at line 1, delete "20" and replace with "19".

In claim 22 at line 1, delete "20" and replace with "19".

37. A computer program product on a computer readable medium for managing objects in a data processing system, the computer program product comprising:

instructions for creating a skeleton cache; ~~and~~

instructions for storing a first object in the skeleton cache, wherein a skeleton cache stores skeleton objects and/or full objects, wherein a full object is an object in which each attribute within the full object has a data value, wherein a skeleton object is an object in which at least one attribute within the skeleton object is dataless, and wherein a skeleton object has a corresponding full object that is stored without the skeleton cache but within the data processing system <u>; and</u>

<u>instructions for retrieving a skeleton definition associated with the first object, wherein a skeleton definition is associated with a first object's type, wherein a skeleton definition indicates whether an attribute within the first object is a skeleton attribute, and wherein a skeleton attribute is a dataless attribute.</u>

Cancel claim 38.

In claim 39 at line 1, delete "38" and replace with "37".

## *Conclusion*

2.      Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Gary J Portka whose telephone number is (571) 272-

4211.  The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Mano Padmanabhan can be reached on (571) 272-4210.  The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-

872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system.  Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Gary J Portka
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2188

November 10, 2004